



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/583,799	06/21/2006	Mark Alan Schultz	PU030326	5910
24498	7590	07/21/2009	EXAMINER	
Thomson Licensing LLC			HOWARD, RYAN D	
P.O. Box 5312			ART UNIT	
Two Independence Way			PAPER NUMBER	
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			2851	
			MAIL DATE	
			DELIVERY MODE	
			07/21/2009	
			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/583,799

Applicant(s)

SCHULTZ ET AL.

Examiner

RYAN HOWARD

Art Unit

2851

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/27/2009
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Acknowledgement made of amendment filed 4/27/2009.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 3 recites *the plurality pf projectors*. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-2 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. (US 5,626,411).

Regarding claim 1, Takahashi teaches a plurality of displays arranged adjacent to each other to form a screen (A, B, C; figure 22) wherein a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam (column 15 lines 4-8); a plurality of projectors, one corresponding to each display of the plurality of displays (235-237, figure 22), wherein each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent displays (81-83, figure 22).

Regarding claim 2, Takahashi further teaches the plurality of displays are arranged in an Nx1 array (figure 22).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Blanchard (US Patent 5,902,030).

Regarding claims 3 and 4 Takahashi does not teach each of the plurality of projectors further includes a mirror wherein the mirror is aligned at an angle of about 45 degrees with respect to a lamp of the projector.

Blanchard teaches each of the plurality of projectors further includes a mirror wherein the mirror is aligned at an angle of about 45 degrees with respect to a lamp of the projector (74, 76; figure 4).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the projection system of Takahashi with the folding mirrors of Blanchard because the folding mirrors of Blanchard fold the optical path thereby reducing the size of the projection system (column 9 lines 21-34).

Double Patenting

6. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140

F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-4 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of copending Application No. 10/583612. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims 1-4 of application 10/583612 are commensurate in scope to claims 1-4 of this application. Overlapping of the images is obviously implied because of the limitation drawn to the use of mask means on each projector.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 4/27/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding Applicant's arguments (page 3 lines 4-16 and page 4 lines 15-27) that Takahashi fails to teach "a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of

displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges," Examiner respectfully disagrees. Takahashi discusses the lenses (81-83, figure 22) being used to perform continuity adjustments (column 14 line 61 - column 15 line 3) at the seams which can be understood as a type of distortion correction or reduction. The claims require only that a lens be used to adjust the different images at the seams. Therefore, Applicant's arguments on the point are not persuasive.

Regarding Applicant's arguments (page 5 lines 3-15) that Blanchard fails to teach, "a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges," Examiner has not relied upon Blanchard to teach all of these limitations. Therefore, Applicant's arguments on this point are not persuasive.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RYAN HOWARD whose telephone number is (571)270-5358. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diane Lee can be reached on (571)272-2399. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William C. Dowling/

Application/Control Number: 10/583,799
Art Unit: 2851

Page 7

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2851

/RYAN HOWARD/
Examiner, Art Unit 2851
7/09/2009